

# NEWS RELEASE

**USDA Forest Service  
Caribou-Targhee National Forest  
1405 Hollipark Drive  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401**



---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: **March 21, 2003**  
03-23

Contact: **Lynn Ballard / Cheryl Probert**  
Phone: **208-524-7500**

## **Release of the Caribou Revised Forest Plan**

**Idaho Falls, ID:** The Caribou-Targhee National Forest is pleased to announce the release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Final Revised Forest Plan (RFP) for the Caribou National Forest. The Revised Forest Plan will guide the management of the Forest for the next ten to fifteen years.

Intermountain Regional Forester, Jack Troyer, signed the Record of Decision on February 19, 2003. "The Caribou Forest Plan provides the framework for site-specific decisions that the forest supervisor and district rangers will make for the Caribou in the years to come," said Troyer. "The overarching goal of this forest plan is to restore native ecosystems to a healthy resilient state using a combination of active management activities and natural processes. This decision strikes a balance between competing demands expressed by many people."

The ninety-day appeal period begins with the publication of the legal notice of this decision in the Idaho Statesman. The FEIS and RFP will be released in late March 2003.

(more)

“We look forward to working with you in the future to implement the Revised Forest Plan on the ground”, stated Jerry Reese, Forest Supervisor for the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. “We thank you for your participation in the planning process over the last four years and encourage your continuing interest in the management of your public lands.”

Based on public comments, forest officials have combined Alternative 7, the Preferred Alternative in Draft EIS, with components of several other alternatives to form Alternative 7R, the Selected Alternative. “We believe this alternative will best meet the needs of forest resources and provide a mix of opportunities for Forest users,” explained Reese.

The first Land and Resource Management Plan for the Caribou National Forest was approved in 1985. Forest Plans have to be revised by law no later than every 15 years. The process for this revised plan started in August 1999. During this time much public input has been sought and analysis completed to get to this point.

If you have participated in the planning process, copies of the Revised Forest Plan documents should start arriving in your mailbox in late March. For more information on the document and/or a copy of the Revised Forest Plan, contact Cheryl Probert or Lynn Ballard at the Caribou-Targhee National Forest Headquarters Office, 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83404, (208) 557-5760. Copies of the document can also be downloaded off the Internet at [www.fs.fed.us/r4/caribou](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/caribou).